



Sinology Education & Traditional Chinese Cultural Heritage: Lotus Pond Sinology Society of Hebei University (HBU), China

Shirley Yang (Qianru) Associate Professor of Hebei University

Hebei Province surrounds Beijing and Tianjin; and Baoding, the city where the university is located, is 85 miles from Beijing. With more than 1,500 years history, Baoding has been designated as a National Historical and Cultural City by central government. It was the capital city of Hebei Province for nearly 300 years during the beginning of 17th Century to the mid of 20th century and has been a major center of politics and culture in North China.

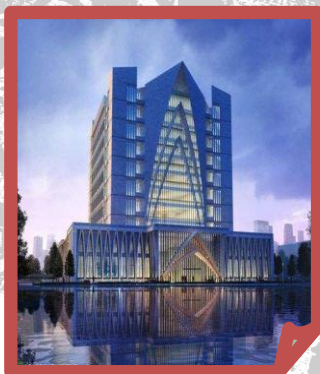


HEBEI PROVINCE

BAODING CITY



**Headquarters Office
Building of the
Main Campus**



**Library of the
New Campus**

As the only key comprehensive university co-established by the provincial government *and* the China Ministry of Education, Hebei University leads the way in the development of higher education in Hebei Province. It covers over 2,500 acres, with eight campuses, more than 3,300 full-time faculty (about 2,000 of whom have doctorates), and nearly 50,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

There are 30 colleges and 5 independent departments in HBU, providing undergraduate programs for 87 majors and awarding master's degrees in 40 disciplines. In addition, Hebei University awards doctorates in optics, engineering, chemistry, Chinese language & literature, philosophy, history, management, engineering, and communications.

Hebei University has established friendly cooperating relations with more than sixty universities and research institutions in the United States, Canada, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, Britain, France, Ireland, Brazil, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Mongolia. HBU attaches great importance to international cooperation and exchanges, hosting many regional and international conferences.

Along with the deepening of the economic, cultural and educational integration between Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei, it is striving to be among the top regional universities in the foreseeable future.



Baoding Lotus Pond Academy

The Lotus Pond Academy was the largest government-run college of North China, having been established in 1733 during the reign of Emperor Yong Zheng, Fifth Emperor of the Qing Dynasty. Over the next 170 years, many notable government officials graduated here; and many famous scholars, poets, calligraphers and artists made outstanding contributions to local education and culture. What's more, it became the Royal Garden of the Qing Dynasty. There are beautiful natural scenery included a large lotus pond, which blossomed in summer, a variety of the finest kinds of classical architecture, and a rich collection of cultural relics---inscription, calligraphies, ancient books and scrolls.

As Chairman Mao Zedong pointed out, during his visit to Baoding in Nov 22, 1952, the city is famous for the Lotus Pond Academy, it once known as the best academy of China in late Qing dynasty. **This is why we named our Sinology Society "Lotus Pond"!**



禮運誦大同



Lotus Pond Sinology Society

Lotus Pond Sinology Society is a student association at History School of Hebei University, which composed 3 full-time professors as advisors for our 50 student members. As Social Sciences have been in the leading level in the university, such as Ancient Chinese history, literature and philosophy, our weekly activities include visiting scholars who give lectures on ancient Chinese literature, traditional art and culture, the recitation of classical poetry, singing archaic songs, practicing folk dance, rehearsing and performing historical dramas written by our teachers and students, and giving fashion shows of traditional costumes and etiquette.

In June 2015, a musical video, including above performances, was produced by our Sinology Society within the historic Lotus Pond Museum-Park of Baoding. For this opus, we won the "Annual Award for Excellence" in the "National Sinology Education Program" category, which was organized and selected by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League. In addition, we received an invitation to perform again in Beijing at a major contest sponsored by the Center of Chinese Youth Development, and won the First Prize on December 19, 2015.

In the future, we will actively participate in various cultural and academic exchanges, hoping to introduce our program abroad someday!



盛世歌華章